

RESOLUTION NO. 0735-07-09

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/LINN COUNTY  
COMMUNITY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE I-JOBS LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE  
COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the I-JOBS Local Infrastructure Competitive Grant program was adopted by the State of Iowa Legislature to provide infrastructure investment funding to mitigate disaster recovery from the Flood of 2008, and to provide for employment while stimulating and promoting long term economic growth, and

WHEREAS, the I-JOBS program will provide \$118.5 million to be distributed in competitive grants available for reconstruction of local public buildings and flood control prevention in communities from devastation of the Flood of 2008 throughout the state of Iowa, and the Cedar Rapids/Linn County community will be submitting 23 (twenty-three) competitive grant applications for projects to the I-JOBS Grant Program, including:

Linn County – Administrative Office – Rebuild and Energy Efficiency  
Linn County – Juvenile Law Center  
City of Cedar Rapids – Reconstruction of Public Parking Ramps  
City of Cedar Rapids – Parking Access Revenue Control System (PARCS)  
City of Cedar Rapids – Downtown Parking Structure  
City of Cedar Rapids – 3<sup>rd</sup> Street S.E. Streetscape Improvements  
City of Cedar Rapids – Intermodal Transportation Facility (ITF)  
City of Cedar Rapids – Anaerobic Biogas System Improvements  
City of Cedar Rapids – Edgewood Road Reconstruction at Cedar River  
City of Cedar Rapids – 6<sup>th</sup> Street SW Reconstruction  
City of Cedar Rapids – Highway 100  
City of Cedar Rapids – US Cellular Center Improvements & Events Center Construction  
City of Cedar Rapids – Acquisition of Flood-Blighted Downtown Properties  
City of Cedar Rapids – Façade of Improvement Incentive Program (F.A.C.E.)  
City of Cedar Rapids – Multigenerational Community Life Center – PLAY  
City of Cedar Rapids – Joint Communications Network  
City of Cedar Rapids – Cedar Rapids Public Library Main Facility  
City of Cedar Rapids – Demolition and remediation of the buildings located on the 1100 block of 3<sup>rd</sup> St S.E. (formerly Quality Chef)  
Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce – Economic Commerce Center  
African American Heritage Foundation of Iowa – African American Museum  
Legion Arts – Restoration of CSPS Hall  
Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa – JA World  
Indian Creek Nature Center – From Flood to Flowers – Crafting a LEED Nature Center  
Headquarters in the Beauty of Prairie Flowers

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA that the above noted projects are hereby endorsed, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA that submission of applications for the City of Cedar Rapids for the above noted projects are hereby authorized.

Passed this 22nd day of July, 2009.

Voting: Council member Podzimek moved the adoption of the resolution; seconded by Council member Wieneke. Adopted, Ayes, Council members Fagan, Gulick, McGrane, Podzimek, Shey, Shields, Vernon, Wieneke and Mayor Halloran.

Attest:

Kay Halloran, Mayor

Ann Ollinger, City Clerk



**Board of Supervisors  
Linn County, Iowa**

**Lu Barron** - District 1  
**Linda Langston** - District 2  
**Ben Rogers** - District 3  
**Brent Oleson** - District 4  
**James M. Houser** - District 5

Administrative Office Building  
930 First Street Southwest  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404-2161

July 20, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

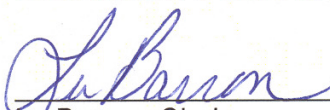
The Linn County Board of Supervisors supports the Indian Creek Nature Center's application for I-JOBS funding to assist with upgrades to several existing facilities and eventual construction of a new Nature Center headquarters.

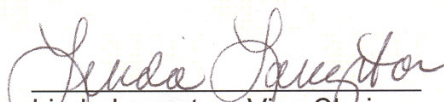
The immediate upgrades would replace the existing roof on the barn and restructure the flood-damaged parking lot, resulting in an efficient, no-runoff design. It is our understanding that both of these projects could begin almost immediately. The longer-term project – the creation of a new Nature Center headquarters on high ground with a restored prairie – would take place next year, subsequent to further planning and identification of matching funding.

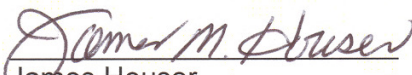
The Indian Creek Nature Center provides environmental education, leadership in land protection and restoration, and opportunities for responsible interaction with nature. With its four miles of trails, area residents and visitors can enjoy hiking, jogging, bird-watching, and cross-country skiing – as well as observe the wide varieties of animal and plant life surrounding them. We believe the Center will continue to be an important component of this area's educational and leisure activities and a contributor to the vitality of our community, and we strongly support its efforts to enhance its viability through these upgrades.

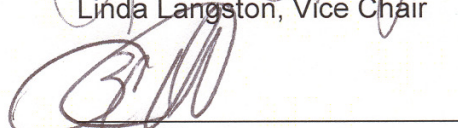
Sincerely,


LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

  
Lu Barron, Chair

  
Linda Langston, Vice Chair

  
James Houser

  
Brent Oleson

  
Ben Rogers

[www.linncounty.org](http://www.linncounty.org)

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[brent.oleson@linncounty.org](mailto:brent.oleson@linncounty.org) • [james.houser@linncounty.org](mailto:james.houser@linncounty.org)  
phone 319.892.5000 • fax 319.892.5009





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Margaret Wolter  
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Liana Woods

At its July 20, 2009 meeting the Executive Committee of the Indian Creek Nature Center approved the following resolution.

*The Executive Committee of the Indian Creek Nature Center approves submittal of a grant request to the I-Jobs Committee that will assist in the flood restoration of an existing building and the construction of a new one on previously non-flooded land owned by the Nature Center.*

Lisa Henderson, President  
Indian Creek Nature Center Board of Directors

7-31-09

Date

Executive Committee members include the five officers of the Board of Directors:

Lisa Henderson, President  
Lisa Ramlo, President-Elect  
Jeff Hines, Treasurer  
Kathleen Aller, Secretary  
Kathy Horan, Immediate Past President





July 14, 2009

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William P. Whipple

PRESIDENT & CEO

Daniel R. Baldwin

Dear I-JOBS Committee:

The Indian Creek Nature Center is submitting a funding proposal to I-JOBS that will enable the organization to move from its flood impacted headquarters to a new facility located on high ground in the midst of the beauty of a restored prairie.

The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation and the Nature Center have enjoyed a long and mutually beneficial relationship. The Foundation has provided many grants over the years to the Nature Center, and they have used the money efficiently and have had great success leveraging grant money to find matching funds.

This fall the Foundation will request proposals from organizations that are engaged in substantial capital projects resulting from the flood. Indian Creek Nature Center is eligible to apply to this program. Funding from this program could constitute a match for their I-Jobs grant.

Sincerely,

Karla Twedt-Ball

Vice President of Programs

200 First Street SW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-5702  
Telephone 319/366.2862  
Facsimile 319/366.2912  
Website [www.gccrf.org](http://www.gccrf.org)

*Make the gift of a lifetime - remember The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation in your estate plans.*



**Eliot G. Protsch**  
Senior Executive Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer

Alliant Energy Corporation  
200 First Street SE  
P.O. Box 351  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0351

Office: 319.786.4136  
eliotprotsch@alliantenergy.com

July 16, 2009

Dear I-Jobs Committee:

The Indian Creek Nature Center is submitting a funding proposal to I-Jobs that would assist the organization in altering its current headquarters building into a large group use area. The project has two pieces which include improvements to their current facilities and a new facility which would not be susceptible to flooding.

Specifically, funding would enable the Nature Center to divert roof water to a wetland septic system and would reconfigure its existing parking lot into "no runoff" design. These would reduce future flood potential. The major portion of the proposal would assist with funding for a new headquarters building in an upland prairie on land the Nature Center owns. This new building would be LEED Platinum. Among its many features would be "zero net energy," accessibility for persons with disabilities, and a no runoff design.

For over 30 years, the Nature Center and Alliant Energy (and its predecessor companies) have cooperated on a variety of energy efficiency, renewable energy generation and energy education programs. The Nature Center has a long-term history of adapting sustainable technologies into its structures and educating people about them. For example, the organization was the first in the area to install water efficient toilets, a wetland septic system, efficient lighting and occupancy sensors, and efficient windows and window insulation. Various grants from the Iowa Energy Center and Alliant Energy enabled the organization to hold workshops and create exhibits helping visitors understand why and how they should incorporate these technologies into their own structures.

About 12 years ago, in cooperation with our company, the Nature Center installed Iowa's first grid intertie, net metered photovoltaic system. A few years later, the Center expanded this system to 3700 watts and has clearly been on the leading edge of energy efficiency and emerging distributed generation technologies for many years.

The Indian Creek Nature Center has a long history of sustainable innovation that greatly predates current interest. This spirit of innovation will be accelerated should this project be funded and we endorse their proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Eliot Protsch", written over a faint, illegible background.

Eliot G. Protsch





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Margaret Wolter  
Dana Wood  
Liana Woods

July 15, 2009

Dear I-Jobs Committee:

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Indian Creek Nature Center and chair its Sustainability Committee.

Two years ago this month our organization received a \$51,750 planning grant from the Kresge Foundation. We completed a thorough planning process designed to bring our current building to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification as well as make it more accessible, educational, and user friendly. Our planning committee included architects, engineers, interested citizens, board members, and staff. We were emerging toward announcing a fund raising campaign to fund construction when the disastrous June 2008 flood hit.

Although no previous flood had ever threatened the renovated 76-year-old barn that serves as our headquarters, floodwater entered the building and did substantial damage. Most organizational efforts have since been devoted to flood recovery, which is still not complete.

The flood forced us to change our focus. We now recognize that future floods could again damage this building. But our concept has not changed. We intend to provide a headquarters building that is utterly green; however, we recognize that significant investment in a flood-prone structure is not prudent. We intend to stabilize the current building and reduce runoff from both its roof and the Nature Center's main parking lot. We are making the building as flood resistant as feasible and intend to use it for major events in the future.

We now believe it would be prudent to construct a new headquarters well out of the flood zone and ensure that it will have the same green focus that was encouraged by Kresge funding for the old structure. I encourage you to support our proposal.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Aller



July 14, 2009

RE: Indian Creek Nature Center  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
I-Jobs Grant Proposal

Dear I-Jobs Committee:

I am a current Board Member of the Indian Creek Nature Center. For approximately two years prior to the June 2008 Flood I was a member of a committee planning a major upgrade of the Indian Creek Nature Center's headquarters building to bring it to LEED Platinum certification and generally make the structure more educational and functional.

The existing facility is a 1932 era barn and had never flooded prior to the floods of 2008. Tragically, a foot of water entered the structure last June. We now must assume that the facility could flood again.

To address our facility concerns as a result of the 2008 flood, our organization has modified our previous planning to include a two-phase enhancement. Phase One would be completing two upgrades on the existing structure. These upgrades include reroofing the building with recycled aluminum shingles and adding gutters that will channel water into an existing wetland septic system. This will reduce runoff into the adjacent Indian Creek. The other upgrade is to convert an eroding, sloped, gravel parking lot into a no-runoff counterpart that will incorporate permeable paving and bioswales. All upgrades are intended to be used as a public demonstration of environmentally friendly features.

Phase Two would be to construct a new headquarters building on land it owns that is approximately 70 feet above the 2008 flood level. We are merely transferring our planning concept of early 2008 from the existing structure to a new one. It will be LEED certified, attractive, functional, and well above flood levels.

To continue moving forward on the vision and purpose of our organization, I encourage you to support the Nature Center's proposal.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brad S. Lang".

Brad s. Lang, AIA  
*Partner*  
SOLUM LANG ARCHITECTS, LLC



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**KNAPP - WARDEN, LLC**  
**ARCHITECTURE & PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING**

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July 15, 2009

Dear I-Jobs Committee:

I have been a member of the Indian Creek Nature Center for a couple of decades now and have served on the Board for several terms. As a member and an architect we have made significant progress in the community's awareness of our natural environment and the need to conserve our resources and to respect our planet. Toward that end Indian Creek Nature Center staff and our firm developed several projects to teach others how to accomplish this.

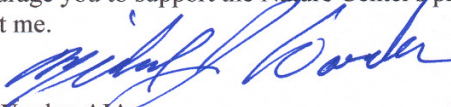
Indian Creek Nature Center has been "green" decades before the current trends. Indian Creek Nature Center had been pursuing LEED for existing building status and for approximately two years prior to the June 2008 Flood I was part of a committee planning a major upgrade of the Indian Creek Nature Center's headquarters building.

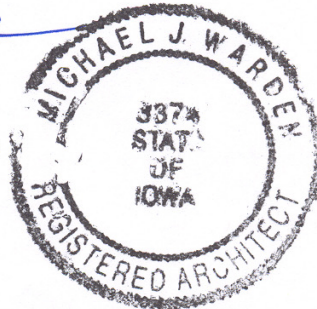
The administrative portion of the Nature Center is housed in a converted dairy barn circa 1932. The building had never been flooded but as the name Indian Creek Nature Center implies, it is near Indian Creek's confluence with the Cedar River and in June of 2008 it took on about a foot of water, damaging numerous areas in the facility. With the global changes in climate Indian Creek Nature Center must assume that this flooding most likely will not be its last. The organization is addressing this by planning a two-phase enhancement:

Phase one is completing two upgrades on the existing structure, which it sees as being used mostly for major future events with the large hayloft area that serves as an auditorium. These upgrades include re-roofing the building with recycled aluminum shingles and adding gutters that will channel water into an existing wetland septic system. This will reduce runoff into Indian Creek. The other upgrade is to convert an eroding, sloped, gravel parking lot into a no-runoff counterpart that will incorporate permeable paving and bioswales to teach the community what we can do to reduce the surface water run-off that is a primary cause of our flooding.

Phase two is the relocation of the administrative offices of the Nature Center to a new headquarters building on land it owns that is approximately 70 feet above the 2008 flood level. We are merely transferring our planning concept of early 2008 from the existing structure to a new one. It will be LEED certified, attractive, functional, and well above flood levels.

I encourage you to support the Nature Center's proposal. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

  
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Architect (Iowa Lic. #3374)  
Knapp Warden LLC Engineers and Architects  
Email: knappwarden2@qwestoffice.net  
Phone: 319-366-6673  
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P.O. BOX 5876

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